

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2385)
Kansas Avenue
Plattsburgh
Clinton County
New York

HAER No. NY-326-BT

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE, TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY (Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2385)

HAER No. NY-326-BT

Location: Kansas Avenue, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622420.4947460
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

Date of Construction: 1956

Architect/Engineer: Unknown

Present Owner: United States Air Force

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Telecommunications Facility provided a centrally located common-user communications system for intrabase and interbase communications, as well as other required communications (exclusive of navigational aids hardware). Cable from the base transmitter and receiver buildings and other base communications systems feed through this structure. Control of all ground point-to-point contact and airground point-to-point contact (e.g., radio, teletype, telephone, etc.) was exercised from this facility. The building also had a 160 kW emergency electric powered generating plant.

Project Information: Building No. 2385 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

Michael Pumphrey
Deborah Dobson-Brown
Earth Tech, Inc.
1461 East Cooley Drive
Colton, CA 92324

Summary Description of Telecommunications Facility (Building No. 2385)

Layout

Building No. 2385 is a 5,237 square foot, one-story brick veneer building, built atop a concrete slab. It has a cross gabled roof (which may have been built over an originally flat one) and it is slightly irregular in plan, with its main section measuring 180'-0" x 26'-0". An offset occurs on the west elevation that measures 27'-8" x 18'-0", and there are two small vestibules located off the southeast façade. Many of the windows in this building have been infilled with brick for security purposes.

Alterations/Additions

Other than the above mentioned window infills (c. 1970) and the addition of the gabled roof (c. 1980), there have been no known additions or alterations to Building No. 2385.

Function

Building No. 2385 was designed, built, and used as an electronic communications facility.

Significance

Communications was of paramount importance to the people who flew, maintained and supported the Plattsburgh AFB mission during the Cold War. Accordingly, the Telecommunications Facility contributed to America's most important military mission, nuclear deterrence as part of the strategic defense initiative, and it is for that reason that Building No. 2385 played an important part in support of the Strategic Air Command mission.

Sources

Hopkins, J.C. and Sheldon A. Goldberg

1986 *The Development of Strategic Air Command 1946-1986 (The Fortieth Anniversary History)*.
Office of the Historian, Headquarters Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, 1
September.

Porcello, J.

1967 "Missile Sites Get Peaceful Use" in *Herald American "Empire,"* June 4.

Tetra Tech Inc.

1995 *Survey of Cold War-Era Buildings and Structures at Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Clinton County, New York*. Prepared for the U.S. Department of the Air Force, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas.

United States Air Force

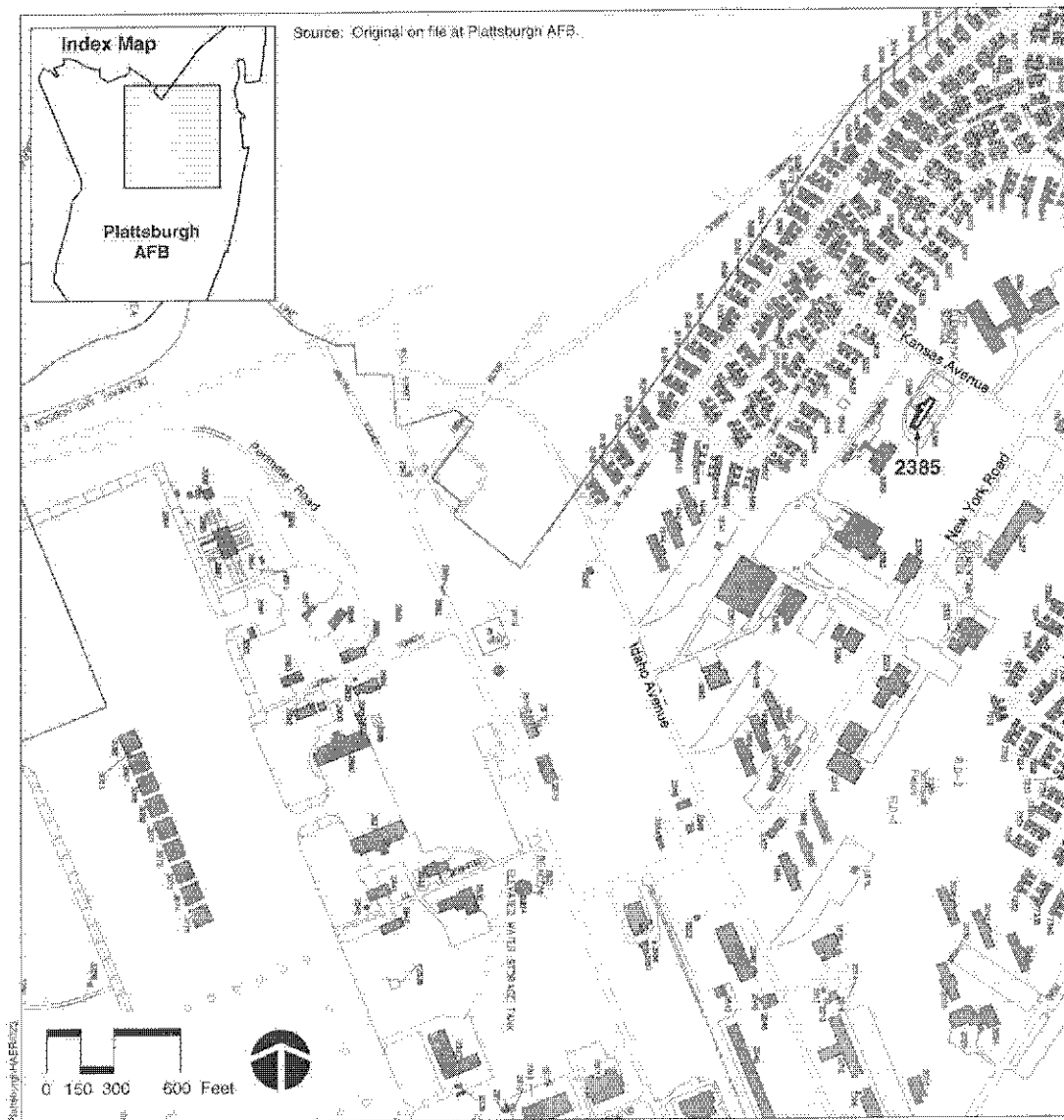
1961 Plattsburgh AFB Real Property Accountable Record, 1961-1989.

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2385)
HAER No. NY-326-BT
(Page 3)

United States Air Force
2000 Plattsburgh AFB Real Property Inventory Detail List.

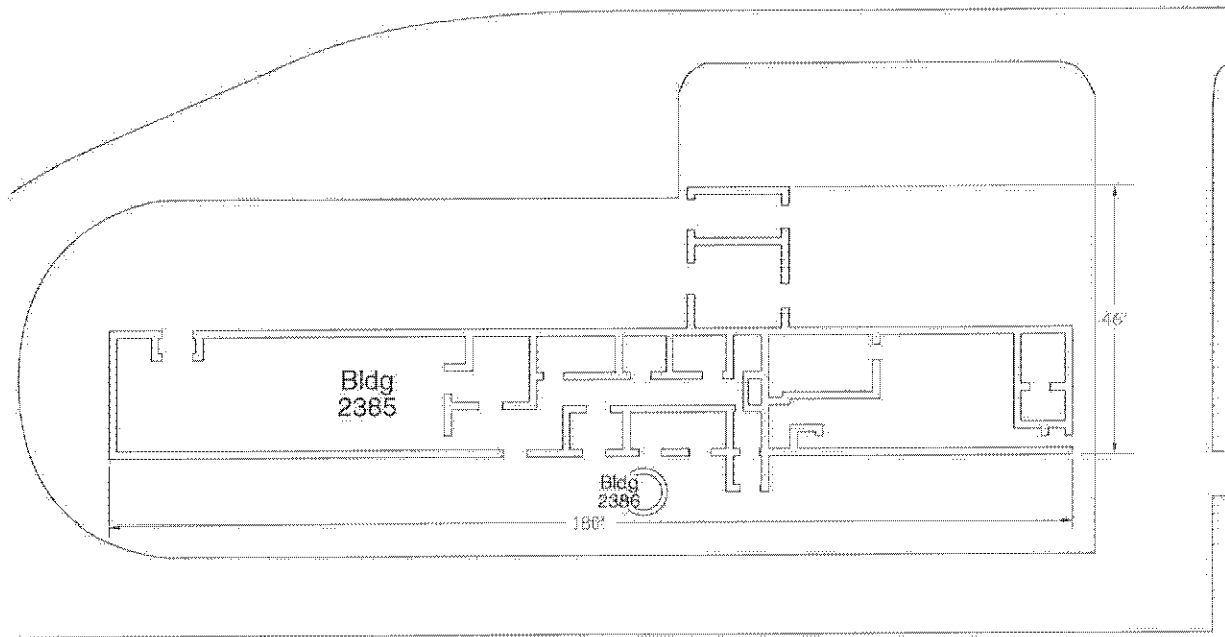
U.S. Department of the Air Force, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
1998 *Draft Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation Plattsburgh Air Force Base New York,*
Volumes I and II, June.

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2385)
HAER No. NY-326-BT
(Page 4)



Location Map for Telecommunications Facility Building, Building No. 2385
Copyright Free

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2385)
HAER No. NY-326-BT
(Page 5)



SKETCH PLAN—TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2385)
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)
Copyright Free